

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/ Discussion Item:

FY 2007 Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS) expenditure plan

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 156.670

KRS 157.655

KRS 157.660

KRS 157.665

Action Question:

Should the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approve the FY 2007 KETS funds identified in the FY 2007 budget for KETS shared services and KETS offers of assistance?

History/Background:

Existing Policy. The Education Technology Trust Fund is established in the Finance and Administration Cabinet by KRS 157.655(1) to provide education technology for the public school system. Funds are appropriated to the Trust Fund in each biennial budget.

All expenditures from the KETS Trust Fund require the initial approval of the Kentucky Board of Education (KRS 157.655(3)); this approval is accomplished through Board approval of the KETS budget plan. Funds approved by the KBE for a project or service in a previous fiscal year are not required to be approved again. Monies are drawn from the Trust Fund on a fiscal year basis. The KETS budget establishes expenditure levels for new funds available for offers of assistance program as well as all Kentucky Education Technology System projects or services not previously approved by KBE and administered directly from the state level.

The KETS budget addresses unmet need in the context of total cost of ownership from initial purchase, recurring costs needed to support implementation, continuous improvements in technology, and the professional capacity of teachers. The budget displays the federal, state and local funds that can go toward the unmet need. A portion of these costs will be for Discounted State Shared Services. State Shared Services are those aspects of the KETS system that are provided as direct discounted services to districts and schools at no local cost.

The Department is seeking Board approval for the FY 2007 KETS Budget. During the board meeting, staff will discuss the details on how FY 2007 KETS funds will be

distributed to the KETS shared services and KETS offers of assistance during FY 2007. Staff will also discuss other funding sources beyond FY 2007 KETS funds that can be used to go toward the identified KETS unmet need.

Staff Recommendation and Rationale:

Staff recommends approval of the FY 2007 KETS expenditure plan as presented. Approval will allow the Department to proceed with FY 2007 KETS funds that have been identified for the new fiscal year.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

The annual KETS Shared Services and Offers of Assistance provide supplemental services and funding to each district to implement, maintain, and incrementally replace the technology required to enhance the learning opportunity for all students and provide students the opportunity to obtain required technology skills that will be valuable once they graduate.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

- District staff
- KDE staff
- School Facilities Construction Commission Office

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Deputy Commissioner

Commissioner of Education

Date:

August 2006